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New Mexico Environment Department Issues Compliance Order to Extreme Green Refuse, LLC

Santa Fe, NM – On August 22, 2011, the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") issued an Administrative Compliance Order ("Order") assessing a \$1,000 penalty to the Extreme Green Refuse, LLC – a solid waste hauling business based in Las Vegas, New Mexico. The Order alleges the company's failure to register with the NMED's Solid Waste Bureau as a commercial (for-hire) hauler of solid waste.

The NMED became aware of Extreme Green Refuse after receiving a citizen's nuisance complaint alleging the on-site storage of solid waste at the company's operations yard in Las Vegas.

Registration of all commercial and special waste haulers is required by the New Mexico Solid Waste Rules. Such registration assures that haulers of solid waste are familiar with basic regulatory requirements, with a primary goal of lawful and safe operations that are sufficiently protective of human health and the environment. The requirement to register is not new, as it was first required in 1994 under the New Mexico Solid Waste Management Regulations (EIB/SWMR-IV).

Extreme Green Refuse has thirty (30) days in which to request a public hearing, or the Order becomes final.

The NMED's Solid Waste Bureau has a longstanding policy that allows unregistered commercial haulers to potentially avoid enforcement action through self-disclosure and immediate attainment of a registration; however, the NMED retains its right to pursue civil enforcement in cases where the lack of registration has been identified through NMED inspection, investigation or complaint, or when substantial violations beyond the requirement to register have been identified. If you have questions regarding the need to register, you may contact the NMED's Solid Waste Bureau at (505) 827-0197, or you may point your web browser to http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swb/haulers.htm, where information and registration forms may be reviewed and downloaded.

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